

# Journeying Together

Shalom Mennonite Church

September 6, 2018

## WORSHIP

Our relationship with God

### Last Sunday, August 23:

Pastor Sabrina Falls delivered the message. Since it was the first Sunday of a new month, we started on a new spiritual discipline focus: "Worship." The scripture text was John 4:1-26.

### This Sunday, September 9:

We will have a special look back at what God has done in our congregation over the past year.

### Next Sunday, September 16:

Pastor Brian will bring the message.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

Relationships at Shalom

### Church Retreat:

Shalom Mennonite Church Fall Retreat will be November 3, 2018. Dan Hess will lead us as we discover our stories:

An informal seminar on story telling

- stories for growing up
- stories for laughing
- stories for crying
- stories for faith
- how to tell a story
- sharing our best stories

More information will be coming as we get closer to the retreat!

### Save the Date:

Fall Clean-Up will be held on Nov. 17 from 8-12. (rain date of Dec. 1) More details to come!

## Calendar

Sun. 9:30am Worship

11:00 am Sunday School

Sept 6 – Meal, 6:30 pm, Bible Study, 7-8 pm

Sept 12 – Morning Breakfast Group @ Ill.

Food Emporium, 7am

Sept 16 – Fall Festival, 5-7pm

Sept 20 – Meal, 6:30 pm, Bible Study, 7-8 pm

Sept 26 – Morning Breakfast Group @ Ill.

Food Emporium, 7am

Sept 30 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Hymn Sing (ready for

HWB #432), 6:30-8pm

Oct 7 – Potluck after church

Oct 20 – Sexual Assault Awareness Training

@Shalom, 9:30-11:30am

Oct 21 - CropWalk

Nov 3 – Church Retreat @ Jameson Camp

Nov 17 – Fall Clean-Up, 8-12

### Living Things Team:

Our grounds need our care and attention! A Living Things Team is forming to coordinate maintenance of our green spaces. The Living Things Team will convene under the umbrella of the Administration Commission and alongside the Building Team to plan for grounds care, implement projects, and inspire participation. Please consider giving leadership and service to Shalom by caring for our grounds. Contact Laura to be a part of the team. [harms.laura@gmail.com](mailto:harms.laura@gmail.com)

## DISCIPLING

Growing in our relationships

### September Sunday School Schedule:

Starting Sept 9, there will be two adult classes:

--Jeanne and Wilma will lead a discussion of the Pathways study guide, part of Mennonite Church USA's Journey Forward process. The study guide is available at:

[http://mennoniteusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Pathways\\_Study\\_Guide\\_Final.pdf](http://mennoniteusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Pathways_Study_Guide_Final.pdf)

This class will meet in the adult classroom downstairs.

--Kim will facilitate a sermon discussion class at the back of the sanctuary.

## OUTREACH

Relationships beyond Shalom

### Fall Festival:

For **Fall Festival on Sunday, September 16, 5-7 p.m.** we are inviting the Thriving Thursday kids and everyone in the neighborhood to join us for an evening of Fun, Food, & Fellowship. This event provides not only a good opportunity for us to get to know our neighbors better, but also a time when the neighbors can become better acquainted with each other. At Fall Festival we plan to chronicle the highlights from Thriving Thursdays and to dedicate the new 100% recycled park bench for our playground. In the event of rain, the Festival will be held in the Fellowship Hall. We are trying to keep the food simpler this year so most of it will be provided but we do need:

- Several people to help with the games/recreation
- Several people to bring their gas grills
- Several people to grill the meat
- Several people to bring relish dishes

- Four people to staff the serving line
- Several people to help set up
- Several people to help clean up and put things away

If you can help with any of this, let Frank Kandel know [kandel93@gmail.com](mailto:kandel93@gmail.com) or text or call 309-532-2859

### Crop Walk:

The annual Greater Indianapolis CropWalk to help stamp out hunger, locally and globally, is scheduled for Oct. 21. Mary Albrecht will again be the contact person. We encourage you to support this as you have for many years. Please consider walking. Put out the word for donors and the reason why you walk. If you are unable to physically take part, please donate to a walker!! Last year, we had 10 walkers and raised \$3,255. Your participation envelopes will be available beginning next Sunday, Sept. 16 from Mary Albrecht.

### Peace Sunday:

The Mennonite World Conference is inviting congregations to observe Peace Sunday together with brothers and sisters in the global Anabaptist church family on September 23, 2018.

The theme for this year's Peace Sunday is: "A Renewed Peace Church Welcomes the Stranger." Throughout the biblical narrative we encounter a God who reminds his people to show hospitality to others, especially those who are the most vulnerable in society – the widow, the orphan, and the alien.

Worship and resource materials that your churches may want to use in celebrating Peace Sunday are available at [www.mwc-cmm.org](http://www.mwc-cmm.org)

Giving Corner:

For September we are starting a new project with Teachers Treasures. A wish list can be found on their website: <http://www.teacherstreasures.org/>

My Coins Count:

Children will be collecting change from the congregation for Mennonite Central Committee's "My Coins Count" program. We have a large water jug to fill before the Relief Sale in September.

**ADMINISTRATION**

Congregational support systems

Pastoral Search Update:

The VAT, PTSC, and Brian Bither have met with and are preparing to bring a candidate to present to Shalom to allow the congregation to consider the individual for the 0.5 FTE pastoral position. Please pray for each one in the congregation as we prepare for the visit and the discernment that we will undertake together. Please also pray for the candidate's discernment process. - Pastoral Team Search Committee (PTSC) - Carol Bixler, Linda Kandel, Kristen Metzler-Wilson, Brad Sommer (Chair), & Herb Troyer

**Milepost #521 – I will write it on their Hearts...**(Jeremiah 31:31-34)

God is a spirit and they that worship God must worship in spirit and in truth – John 4:24. Last Sunday Pastor Sabrina shared the story of Jesus meeting the woman at the well (John 4). The week before that, during Sunday School, Dan Hess shared about how we connect with others, especially those who are different from us (See “Stories by Dan Hess” August 26, 2018 on Shalom Website) Both of these teachings were on *relationship building*.

Jesus could have gone back to Galilee via the Jordan (John 4:4) and avoided passing through the despised land of the Samaritans. But because “he came to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10), he didn’t go out of his way to avoid the “undesirables.”

Instead, breaking all conventions, he asks the woman to draw him some water from the well.

In Sunday School Dan Hess shared a similar story of bridging the divide and relating to a downtrodden person on Mass Avenue. In both of these cases, it would have been easier—more convenient—to go the other way.

In her sermon on “The New Covenant of Worship,” Sabrina defined worship this way: “To experience the reality of the resurrected Christ in the midst of gathered community.” Both the woman at the well, and the downtrodden man on Mass Ave experienced the reality of the resurrected Christ as they were ministered to. It matters not whether in church worshipping with other believers, or on a street corner during the week, we can encounter the reality of the resurrected Christ.

What does the Lord require of us? To bow down before the Lord with offerings? No. Rather, do justice, love kindness, and walk humble with your God (Micah 6:6-8).  
-Pastor Frank Kandel

*Do you have some thoughts to share about this month's spiritual discipline? The Pastoral Team invites you to share your thoughts as one of the weekly milepost entries. Please email Sabrina, Frank, or Brian to explore this further.*

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Journeying Together is a weekly email newsletter of Shalom Mennonite Church: 6100 E 32nd St, 46226; (317) 549-0577 [shalommennonite.com](http://shalommennonite.com)

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Vision & Accountability Team: Brad Sommer, Jeanne Smucker, Wilma Bailey, Carl Rhine, Kim Johnson, Brian Bither

Please submit information by Thursday, 12pm, to Emily Fox: [office@shalommennonite.com](mailto:office@shalommennonite.com)